

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 SSM-03 EB-08 COME-00 OES-07
DOE-15 SOE-02 HA-05 DOEE-00 /130 W
-----045316 191846Z /50

P 191728Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9373
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR MASS EG PINT
SUBJECT: KAMEL APPEARS BEFORE PEOPLES ASSEMBLY FOREIGN
- RELATIONS COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: AHRAH HEADLINES MAY 19 HIGHLIGHT KAMEL'S
APPRECIATION OF SIGNIFICANCE OF AIRCRAFT DEAL APPROVAL,
NEED FOR U.S. TO BRING ABOUT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM
LEBANON, IMPORTANCE OF NUMAYRI MISSION, AND GOE REQUEST
(THROUGH USG AND UN) TO GET U.S. COMPANIES TO STOP AIDING
ISRAELI OIL EXPLORATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. ALSO
HIGHLIGHTED WAS KAMEL'S REPETITION OF GOE HOPE THAT
1973 WAR MAY BE LAST WAR BUT THAT THIS DEPENDS ON RES-
PONSE OF THE OTHER PARTY. IN COMMENTS ON NUMAYRI MISSION,
KAMEL LINKS ITS SUCCESS WITH PASSAGE OF ARMS SALE, SUG-
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GESTING GOE BELIEVES DEAL APPROVAL RELEVANT TO RECON-
CILIATION WITH REJECTIONISTS. END SUMMARY.

1. KAMEL STATEMENT. IN APPEARANCE BEFORE PEOPLES
ASSEMBLY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FONMIN KAMEL,
ASKED HOW LONG DOOR COULD BE KEPT OPEN FOR PEACE
NEGOTIATIONS, REPLIED THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT CLOSE DOOR

TO PEACE PROCESS, BUT DURATION DEPENDS ON OTHER PARTY. KAMEL REPEATED EGYPT'S CALL FOR COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND RECOGNITION OF RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS. AHRAM REPORTS KAMEL SAYING THAT SADAT'S PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED IDEA THAT 1973 WAR WOULD BE LAST WAR DOES NOT INFRINGE ON EGYPT'S "FULL RIGHT" TO TAKE "AT PROPER TIME" POSITION IT DEEMS NECESSARY TO "LIBERATE ITS TERRITORY WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LEGITIMACY."

2. AIRCRAFT DEAL. PRESS HIGHLIGHTED KAMEL'S STATEMENT THAT AIRCRAFT APPROVAL IS "TURNING POINT" IN AMERICAN POLICY AND "BEGINNING OF LIBERATION OF AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS FROM INFLUENCE OF ZIONIST PRESSURE GROUPS." POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DEAL "MUCH MORE IMPORTANT" THAN MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE. (RADIO REPORTS ATTRIBUTED THESE STATEMENTS TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS RATHER THAN TO KAMEL.) (PEOPLES ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MAREI SENT TELEGRAM OF THANKS TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, SPEAKER O'NEIL AND SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BYRD.)

3. NUMAYRI MISSION. KAMEL AFFIRMED NUMAYRI MISSION HAS "NOT YET PRODUCED TANGIBLE RESULTS" BUT SAID NUMAYRI WILL START "SECOND STAGE" IN HIS EFFORTS IN JUNE. NUMAYRI FEELS "POSITIVE RESULTS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN LIGHT OF SUCCESS OF THE AIRCRAFT DEAL AND ACTIVE ROLE TAKEN BY ARAB OIL COUNTRIES."
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4. LEBANON. KAMEL URGED AMERICA, AS AUTHOR OF RESOLUTION 425, TO PURSUADE ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON. (RADIO REPORTS OF MEETING ALSO ATTRIBUTED THIS STATEMENT TO COMMITTEE RATHER THAN TO KAMEL.) COMMITTEE REPORTEDLY CARRYING OUT STUDY OF LEBANON SITUATION AND REACTION TO GOL DECISION TO LIQUIDATE ANY ARMED PALESTINIAN PERSONS.

5. OIL EXPLORATION. KAMEL SAID GOE HAD REQUESTED AMERICAN COMPANIES TO STOP ACTIVITIES IN SINAI AND GULF OF SUEZ IN COOPERATION WITH ISRAELI RESOURCE EXPLORATION EFFORTS. KAMEL GAVE COMMITTEE TEXT OF NOTE GOE SENT TO UN PROTESTING ISRAEL'S "ILLEGAL" EXPLORATION FOR OIL IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. KAMEL ALSO SAID GOE HAD ASKED U.S. TO TAKE "POSITIVE STAND" AGAINST ISRAEL'S ACTION IN THIS AREA.

6. COMMENT. THERE SEEMS NOTHING NEW IN KAMEL'S MILD REPETITION OF GOE POSITION THAT 1973 WAR MIGHT BE LAST DEPENDING ON RESPONSE OF OTHER PARTY TO PEACE INITIATIVE. NEITHER SADAT NOR KAMEL HAVE IN PAST COMPLETELY FORE-

CLOSED WAR OPTION. KAMEL'S LINK OF NUMAYRI'S SUCCESS
TO APPROVAL OF AIRCRAFT DEAL SUGGEST GOE BELIEVES AIR-
CRAFT APPROVAL VINDICATES SADAT INITIATIVE AND DOOR
NOW OPEN FOR OTHER U.S. ACTIONS WHICH MAY, IN TURN,
CREATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH WILL BRING REJECTIONISTS
BACK TO EGYPT. MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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